

Negative campaigning affecting supporters

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- Supporters of both Democratic U.S. presidential contenders, affected by the primary season's negativity, reportedly are unwilling to back the other nominee. Support for Sens. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., and Barack Obama, D-Ill., is reflecting the negative tone that has emerged in the run-up to the Democratic National Convention, NBC News reported Wednesday. Heels dug in, supporters say they'd have a hard time backing the Democratic nominee if it isn't their candidate -- some indicating they'd vote for the probable GOP nominee, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., in November. Emma Sanders of Jackson, Miss., told NBC she would "hate to think about that. I feel that Obama is going to win and that he'd be the nominee of the Democratic Party. I don't think I'm going to have to vote for her." Among Clinton supporters NBC interviewed, white women were the most likely to say they would have to consider seriously whether to vote for Obama. A Pew Research Center poll indicated 20 percent of white Democrats said they would vote for McCain if Obama were the Democratic nominee, twice the percentage of white Democrats who said they would support the Republican candidate in a Clinton-McCain tilt.

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